

Message

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**From:** Ashby Barnes [Ashby.Barnes@tn.gov]  
**Sent:** 10/28/2020 4:58:44 PM  
**To:** Charick, Kim [Charick.Kim@epa.gov]  
**CC:** Trey White [Trey.White@tn.gov]; Vance, Ronald [Vance.Ronald@epa.gov]; Alfano, Barbara [Alfano.Barbara@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** RE: Do you accept chemical recycling (molecular recycling) products?  
  
**Flag:** Follow up

Kim,

Thank you for your email.

Ron, could you please share the response you sent to Eastman so I can share it with my colleagues? Thank you.

Regards,  
Ashby



Ashby Barnes, P.G. | Environmental Scientist  
Div. of Solid Waste Management | Materials Management Programs  
William R. Snodgrass Tennessee Tower, 14th Floor  
312 Rosa L Parks Ave, Nashville, TN 37243  
Office: (615) 532-8010  
Mobile: Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)  
Email: Ashby.Barnes@tn.gov  
[www.tn.gov/environment](http://www.tn.gov/environment)

<https://www.tn.gov/environment/program-areas/solid-waste/materials-management-program/recovered-materials.html>

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**From:** Charick, Kim <Charick.Kim@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 28, 2020 11:14 AM  
**To:** Ashby Barnes <Ashby.Barnes@tn.gov>  
**Cc:** Trey White <Trey.White@tn.gov>; Vance, Ronald <Vance.Ronald@epa.gov>; Alfano, Barbara <Alfano.Barbara@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Do you accept chemical recycling (molecular recycling) products?

Ashby:

It's best if you reach out to Ron Vance directly. I've spoken to Ron and it seems that Eastman has contacted multiple EPA Regions asking the same question. In order to be responsive to Eastman, the EPA response should go to one person and my understanding is that Ron was going to take care of it.

Thanks, hope this helps! I've included both Ron and my manger on this email so we're all in the loop.

~Kim

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**From:** Ashby Barnes <[Ashby.Barnes@tn.gov](mailto:Ashby.Barnes@tn.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 28, 2020 12:04 PM  
**To:** Charick, Kim <[Charick.Kim@epa.gov](mailto:Charick.Kim@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Trey White <[Trey.White@tn.gov](mailto:Trey.White@tn.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Do you accept chemical recycling (molecular recycling) products?

Kim,

Were you ever able to get a response from your colleagues concerning the questions from Eastman?

Please note, I changed my email address, I dropped the "R" in front of Ashby.

Regards,  
Ashby



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<https://www.tn.gov/environment/program-areas/solid-waste/materials-management-program/recovered-materials.html>

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**From:** R.Ashby Barnes  
**Sent:** Friday, August 28, 2020 4:21 PM  
**To:** Charick, Kim <[Charick.Kim@epa.gov](mailto:Charick.Kim@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Do you accept chemical recycling (molecular recycling) products?

Kim,

I wanted to check up on these questions from Eastman Chemical.

Regards,  
Ashby

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**From:** Charick, Kim <[Charick.Kim@epa.gov](mailto:Charick.Kim@epa.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 22, 2020 1:32 PM  
**To:** R.Ashby Barnes <[R.Ashby.Barnes@tn.gov](mailto:R.Ashby.Barnes@tn.gov)>; Newman, Alan <[Newman.Alan@epa.gov](mailto:Newman.Alan@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Trey White <[Trey.White@tn.gov](mailto:Trey.White@tn.gov)>; Alfano, Barbara <[Alfano.Barbara@epa.gov](mailto:Alfano.Barbara@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Do you accept chemical recycling (molecular recycling) products?

Ashby:

Thanks for reaching out to us. I've reached out to some of my colleagues and should have some information for you shortly.

Thanks,  
Kim

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**From:** R.Ashby Barnes <[R.Ashby.Barnes@tn.gov](mailto:R.Ashby.Barnes@tn.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 22, 2020 2:22 PM  
**To:** Charick, Kim <[Charick.Kim@epa.gov](mailto:Charick.Kim@epa.gov)>; Newman, Alan <[Newman.Alan@epa.gov](mailto:Newman.Alan@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Trey White <[Trey.White@tn.gov](mailto:Trey.White@tn.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Do you accept chemical recycling (molecular recycling) products?

Kim and Alan,

How are you doing?

Below are some questions from Eastman Chemical in Kingsport, TN. I spoke with Betty Fite and she said that she had spoken with someone at EPA Region 5 who couldn't answer her questions but would forward them to D.C., and then a receptionist at EPA Region 4 who said she should speak with someone here at TDEC.

If you are not the people that could answer the questions, could you please forward the email to correct contact person and include Trey White ([Trey.White@tn.gov](mailto:Trey.White@tn.gov)) and I in the correspondence?

Thank you for your help with this.

Regards,  
Ashby Barnes



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<https://www.tn.gov/environment/program-areas/solid-waste/materials-management-program/recovered-materials.html>

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**From:** Fite, Betty <[bfite@eastman.com](mailto:bfite@eastman.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 9:17 AM  
**To:** R.Ashby Barnes <[R.Ashby.Barnes@tn.gov](mailto:R.Ashby.Barnes@tn.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Do you accept chemical recycling (molecular recycling) products?

Hi Ashby, it was so nice to talk with you yesterday. We are very interested in the RCRA's recycling program and we are requesting EPA's support for our molecular recycling process. We have a few questions about the Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines (CPG) program.

- **How do we qualify our molecular recycling products/process?**
- Are molecular recycled products are accepted for the CPG product list?

- Does EPA have any guidelines or regulations on ways to engage in the program?

Our CEO, Mark Costa is an advocate of creating a true closed-loop process for hard-to-recycle plastics.

We are currently working on two initiatives to create a circular economy:

- **Carbon renewal technology, or CRT**, which breaks down waste plastic feedstocks to the molecular level before using them as building blocks to produce a wide range of materials and packaging. The company claims this enables waste plastics to be recycled an infinite number of times without degradation of quality.
- **Polyester renewal technology, or PRT**, which involves taking waste polyesters from landfills and other waste streams and transforming them back into a raw material that the company claims is indistinguishable from polyester produced from fossil-fuel feedstocks.

Any information you can provide is appreciated.

Thank you very much for your time,  
Betty

Betty Fite | Eastman  
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Kingsport, Tennessee 37660  
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